

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-20 HA-05 OMB-01 /107 W

-----121738 061038Z /21

P 060936Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2407

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS PRETORIA 5214

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, WA, SF

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: BOTHA-AHTISAARI MEETING

REF: PRETORIA 5189

1. IN WHAT RICHARD WALKER OF THE RAND DAILY MAIL DESCRIBED TODAY, SEPTEMBER 6, AS "A 90-MINUTE FACE-TO-FACE CONFRONTATION," SA FOREIGN MINISTER PIK BOTHA REPORTEDLY WARNED MARTTI AHTISAARI YESTERDAY THAT "SERIOUS SUSPICIONS" HAD BEEN RAISED OVER THE GOOD FAITH OF THE UN. BOTHA WAS RESPONDING TO THE ALLEGED CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE AHTISAARI MISSION (REFTEL). HE REPORTEDLY CALLED "HOPELESSLY INACCURATE" A FIGURE OF 40,000 EXILES AND SWAPO PERSONNEL SUPPOSEDLY QUALIFYING FOR REPATRIATION. AHTISAARI'S REPORTED RESPONSE STATED THAT THE FIGURE HAD UNCLASSIFIED

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BEEN CHOSEN FOR "BUDGETARY REASONS", ADDING THAT HE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO VERIFY THE FIGURES AND DID NOT NECESSARILY ACCEPT THEM.

2. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, BOTHA WAS QUOTED AS SAYING HE HAD RAISED THE ISSUE "BECAUSE I KNOW IT IS UNTRUE THAT 40,000 SOUTHEWESTERS ARE LIVING OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY. THE TRUE FIGURE IS THREE OR FOUR TIMES LOWER," AND ADDED,

"THIS IS THE SORT OF THING WHICH AROUSES SERIOUS SUSPICION
AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY ABOUT THE GOOD FAITH
OF THE UNITED NATIONS."
EDMONDSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, PRESS COMMENTS, REPATRIATION, MEETINGS, EXILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRETOR05214
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780362-0699
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780998/aaaadczz.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4b76fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PRETORIA 5189
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1531170
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: BOTHA-AHTISAARI MEETING
TAGS: PDEV, SOPN, WA, SF
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4b76fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014